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May 23, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance convened on May 23, 2007, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Dennis Sullivan and Robert Trane also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Rebekah Gewirtz and William White, DPW Commissioner Stan Koty and Finance Director Ed Bean.

Commissioner Koty presented the breakdown for snow related expenditures for fy-06 and said that even though the city belongs to a consortium to purchase salt, the cost of salt has doubled in the last 3 years. He ALSO noted that no outside contractors were used to plow, sand or haul snow during FY-06. Alderman Trane asked the Commissioner to provide information on what the snow related cost would have been had the city not purchased new equipment, showing a breakdown of the cost savings to city.

Commissioner Koty reported that the leak at the Central Library was from a skylight, not the roof, and said that modifications have been made and the leak repaired. The new rug at the Central Library will have the ability to be replaced in sections, thereby reducing maintenance and replacement costs.

Extensive repairs are needed at the West Branch Library and therefore might be accomplished through capital projects. If major repairs are undertaken, then it might be wise to hire an architect to design structural repairs to the building's entrance to make it ADA accessible. Alderman Gewirtz asked that the cost of installing a lift be explored.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following item:

182909: Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of an amendment to Ordinance 2006-13 at Sec. 3 by inserting the words "Library Director" under the category "Executive Grade Level II."

RECOMMENDATION: Should be Placed on File

VOTE: Unanimous, 4 - 0 in favor

Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman
Committee on Finance

